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sufficient atomic disorder, such that the metal, in contact with an alcohol or water-based electrolyte, releases atoms, ions, molecules, or clusters of at least one antimicrobial metal at a concentration sufficient to provide a localized antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory effect.

Sub C 2

3. (Once amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the antimicrobial metal is nanocrystalline silver, wherein nanocrystalline indicates a grain size which is less than 100 nanometers in at least one dimension.

4. (Once amended) The method as set forth in claim 3, wherein the one or more antimicrobial metals are provided as a coating on, or filler in, a dressing, or in a pharmaceutical composition with one or more pharmaceutically and dermatologically acceptable carriers, diluents, or excipients suitable for topical application.

Please add new claims 13, 14, 15 and 16 as set out below:

A 3

13. The method as set forth in claim 3, wherein the antimicrobial metal is nanocrystalline silver, wherein nanocrystalline indicates a grain size which is less than 50 nanometers in at least one dimension.

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14. The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the antimicrobial metal is nanocrystalline silver, wherein nanocrystalline indicates a grain size which is less than 25 nanometers in at least one dimension.

15. The method as set forth in claim 5, wherein the nanocrystalline powder includes particulates of the one or more antimicrobial metals having a particulate size which is less than 100 μm .

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16. The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the nanocrystalline powder includes particulates of the one or more antimicrobial metals having a particulate size which is less than 40 μm .